App. No. 10/073,670
Response Dated May 22, 2006
Reply to Office Action of February 21, 2006

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended)   A computer-implemented method for identifying metadata about a first resource identified by a first identifier, the method comprising:

issuing a request for to get a rendition of the first resource identified by the first identifier;

parsing a response document received in response to the issued request, wherein ; and if the response document includes an indication that the metadata exists within a second resource identified by a second identifier, the indication identifying the metadata format;

generating a request to retrieve the metadata from the second resource, wherein the generated request is formatted to support the metadata format identified by the indication; and

retrieving the metadata from the second other resource identified by the second identifier.

2. (currently amended)   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the response document comprises an XML document and the indication comprises an and XML processing instruction.

3. (previously presented)   The computer-implemented method of claim 2, wherein the first identifier and the second identifier comprise a Universal Resource Identifier.

4. (original)   The computer-implemented method of claim 2, wherein the indication further comprises an attribute identifying an "alternate" relation.

5. (original)   The computer-implemented method of claim 2, wherein the indication further comprises the second identifier.

6. (original)   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the response document comprises an HTML document and the indication comprises a LINK tag.

7. (currently amended)   The computer-implemented method of claim 6, wherein the LINK tag further comprises an attribute identifying an expected response type of text/xml.

8. (original)   The computer-implemented method of claim 6, wherein the LINK tag further comprises an attribute identifying an "alternate" relation.

9. (original)   The computer-implemented method of claim 6, wherein the LINK tag further comprises the second identifier.

10. (currently amended)   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein retrieving the metadata from the second other location occurs automatically and without further user interaction.

11. (currently amended)   A computer-readable medium encoded with a data structure, comprising a discovery document stored in the data structure, wherein:

the discovery document comprises metadata about a resource stored at a first location identified by a first identifier, and a at least one typed link indicating the existence of further metadata about the resource, wherein the typed link identifies the metadata format; and

the data structure is stored at a second location identified by a second identifier, wherein the metadata is retrieved from the second location in response to a request, and further wherein the request is formatted to support the metadata format identified by the typed link.

12. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the typed link indicates the existence of a second discovery document and a location of the second discovery document.

13. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the typed link indicates a link to a Web-based service.

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14. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein another typed link indicates a link to a description of the Web-based service.

15. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the typed link indicates a link to an XML schema.

16. (currently amended)   The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the first identifier and the second identifier comprise comprises a Universal Resource Identifier.

17. (currently amended)   A computer-readable medium encoded with a data structure, comprising a response document stored in the data structure, wherein:
the response document is issued in response to a request for a resource at a first location,
the response document includes an indication that metadata a document exists at a second location that is different from the first location, and
the indication identifies the includes metadata format about the resource,
a request to retrieve the metadata from the second resource is issued, and
the request to retrieve the metadata is formatted to support the metadata format identified by the indication.

18. (previously presented)   The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the response document is an HTML document and the indication comprises a LINK tag.

19. (previously presented)   The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the response document is an XML document and the indication comprises an XML stylesheet processing instruction.

20. (currently amended)   A system for communicating data over a network, the system comprising:
a server computer including a resource;

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a client computer configured to issue a request for the resource and to receive information in response to the request; and

a response document based on the resource, generated by the server, and including an indication of the existence of a discovery document at a location different than the server computer, the discovery document including metadata about the resource, wherein:

the indication identifies the metadata format,

the client computer receives the response document including the indication of the discovery document,

the client computer generates a request to retrieve the metadata from the discovery document, and

the generated request is formatted to support the metadata format identified by the indication.

21. (currently amended)   The system of claim 20, wherein the response document comprises an XML document and the indication of the existence of the discovery document comprises an XML stylesheet processing instruction.

22. (currently amended)   The system of claim 20, wherein the response document comprises an HTML document and the indication of the existence of the discovery document comprises a LINK tag.

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